

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DUBLIN 00022 061807Z

44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-10 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-02 SP-02

STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 PA-02

PRS-01 USIA-15 EURE-00 /078 W
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P 061615Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6321

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION USEC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

UNCLAS DUBLIN 22

PASS AGRICULTURE FROM AG ATTACHE

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR EC EI

SUBJ: VISIT OF COMMISSIONER LARDINOIS TO IRELAND

1. EC AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER PIERRE LARDINOIS VISITED DUBLIN JAN 3-4 AND HAD TALKS WITH PRIME MINISTER COSGRAVE, AGMIN CLINTON AND IRISH FARM LEADERS. VISIT BELIEVED MAINLY CONNECTED WITH IRELAND'S COMING SIX MONTHS AS CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL. HOWEVER, IN A LIVE PRESS CONFERENCE LATER, LARDINOIS MADE A NUMBER OF INTERESTING COMMENTS.

2. ON IMPORT RESTRICTIONS, LARDINOIS MADE IT CLEAR THAT CURRENT EC IMPORT RESTRICTIONS ON BEEF FROM THIRD COUNTRIES COULD NOT BE EXPECTED TO LAST FOR MORE THAN "A FEW MONTHS" AT MOST. HE WAS
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PAGE 02 DUBLIN 00022 061807Z

AGAINST SUCH RESTRICTIONS AS EFFECTS ON WORLD MARKETS COULD "BACK

FIRE" ON EC. OVER PRODUCTION IN THE EC WAS THE MAIN CAUSE OF THE CRISIS, NOT IMPORTS.

3. THE CAP FOR DAIRY PRODUCTS WAS LIKELY TO PRESENT GREATEST PROBLEM IN FUTURE. IT WAS ALREADY TAKING FAR TOO MUCH OF EC BUDGET, AND DAIRY PRODUCERS COULD NOT EXPECT ANY "OPEN ENDED COMMITMENT" TO INTERVENTION FOR DAIRY PRODUCTS FOR THE REST OF THE 1970'S. PRODUCERS MUST SHARE THE COST OF DISPOSING OF SURPLUSES.

4. ON THE QUESTION OF MCA'S, LARDINOIS SAID THAT THE COMISSION WAS TRYING TO SOLVE THE WHOLE MONETARY PROBLEM CREATED BY MEMBER COUNTRIES' CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS AND THERE WOULD BE NO FURTHER DEVALUATION OF IRELAND'S "GREED POUND" UNTIL HER PARTNERS HAD SORTED OUT THEIR FINANCIAL POSITION.

5. WHILE LARDINOIS FAVORED A CAP FOR SHEEP, NO MOVES COULD BE MADE UNTIL UK RENEGOTIATIONS WERE COMPLETE.

6. REGIONAL POLICY. ON THE QUESTION OF EXTRA HELP FOR SMALL FARMERS IN POOR AREAS LARDINOIS SAID THIS WAS THROWING GOOD MONEY AFTER BAD. IN THE LONG TERM THEY COULD NOT STAND IN THE WAY OF EC CAP OBJECTIVES WHICH INVISAGED LARGER VIABLE UNITS. NEWSPAPERS QUOTE HIM AS SAYING "I AM NOT OF THE OPINION THAT WE SHOULD HAVE SHORT-TERM POLICIES TO KEEP FARMERS ON THE LAND BY UNNATURAL MEANS".

7. SUGAR. LARDINOIS EXPECTS THE EC TO BE SELF SUFFICIENT BY 1976.

8. COMMENT. IRISH FARMERS WILL NOT RECEIVE MANY OF THESE IMPLICATIONS TOO FAVORABLY. IN PARTICULAR, FARMERS INTERTS WOULD RESIST VERY STRONGLY ANY RESUMPTION OF BEEF IMPORTS FROM THIRD COUNTRIES WHILE FARM PRICES STAY LOW. THE LACK OF FURTHER ASSISTANCE TO RURAL COMMUNITIES IN DEPRESSED AREAS MIGHT CREATE WIDER POLICTICAL REACTIONS.
MOORE

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